

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Chang et al. Confirmation No.: 6448
Serial No. : 10/787,526
Filed : February 26, 2004
For : **DUAL FUNCTIONING EXCIPIENT FOR METAL CHELATE
CONTRAST AGENTS**
Art Unit : 1618
Examiner : Dameron L. Jones

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

This Amendment is submitted in connection with a Request for Continued Examination ("RCE") filed herewith in the above-identified patent application. This Amendment addresses the issues raised in the Final Official Action mailed March 1, 2007 in this application ("the Final Office Action"). The shortened statutory period for reply was June 1, 2007. Applicants are concurrently petitioning for a three month extension of time, extending the deadline to respond up to and including September 1, 2007. Thus, the RCE and this Amendment are timely filed.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.